

To: Vranka, Joe[vranka.joe@epa.gov]
From: Sesso, Jon
Sent: Wed 10/18/2017 4:25:47 PM
Subject: Re: media request

Joe, There seems to be some confusion on this. The attachment you forwarded yesterday (below) from Moler is in regards to Anaconda sites. I was interested in receiving the information that EPA provided to the Montana Standard regarding the West Side Soils. There was a long article in today's paper regarding the information/Q&A that EPA provided for that story, including your intentions to start a "site characterization study" in summer 2018. If you would please send a copy of that information, it would be most appreciated. Thanks. Jon

From: Vranka, Joe <vranka.joe@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 3:21:33 PM
To: Sesso, Jon
Subject: Fwd: media request

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Moler, Robert" <Moler.Robert@epa.gov>
Date: October 16, 2017 at 2:54:51 PM MDT
To: Susan Dunlap <Susan.Dunlap@mtstandard.com>
Cc: "Coleman, Charles" <COleman.Charles@epa.gov>, "Vranka, Joe" <vranka.joe@epa.gov>, "Mylott, Richard" <Mylott.Richard@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: media request

Hi Susan,

Here is our response to your inquiry regarding arsenic and lead testing at schools at the Anaconda Smelter site. Let me know if you have any further questions. Thanks for extending your deadline for us on this one.

I understand EPA never ordered ARCO to test for arsenic inside the schools, is that correct?

Yes. During the remedial investigation, EPA directed ARCO to sample dust (interiors, exteriors and attics) only in residential homes because this posed the greatest risk to children at the site.

Based on this data, the arsenic remedy did not require the sampling of interior dust for cleanup. Under the current lead remedy, attic dust will be sampled. This will include schools, homes, and business.

And the soil testing at the school grounds was 2 inches for arsenic done in the early 2000's, correct?

Most schools were sampled during the remedial investigation during the 1990's. Based on that data (which indicated levels generally below the arsenic action level) schools were not initially targeted for arsenic cleanup.

However, as the arsenic cleanup area expanded, all schools east of main street were eventually sampled along with additional residential properties. Sampling was done in 2 phases. Phase 1 sampling was 0-2 inches. If Phase 1 data indicated that arsenic was greater than the action level, Phase 2 sampling would continue to sample those properties to 18 inches.

The soils on school grounds have never been tested for lead, correct?

Correct. However all schools are included in the current cleanup plan for lead. The first schools are scheduled to be sampled this fall.

Any additional comment EPA wants to make on the school testing?

EPA's mission is to protect human health. If any information should come to light that suggests that people are potentially exposed in schools to harmful contamination as a result of historic smelting activities, EPA will investigate further and address any potential pathways. EPA will also investigate any specific areas of public concern in schools during the next Five Year Review scheduled for 2020.

For Benny Goodman, I understand the park will be closed for 8 weeks starting in the spring and will undergo a complete soil remediation of "mostly" 12 inches, with some spots only 6 inches. Is EPA in charge of this?

No. EPA has directed Atlantic Richfield under order to implement the cleanup and EPA will oversee the effort to ensure the remedy is protective of human health and the environment. Atlantic Richfield is responsible for scheduling and implementing the work.

Any comment on the remediation project?

Community involvement in the Superfund process is essential and EPA encourages the public to learn more about the Anaconda Smelter and contact EPA with any concerns or questions. The EPA website for the site, www.epa.gov/superfund/anaconda-co-smelter, includes background information about the site, a current site status and ongoing work, technical documents, and EPA contact information.

Robert Moler

Community Involvement Coordinator

EPA – Montana

406.457.5032

-----Original Message-----

From: Susan Dunlap [<mailto:Susan.Dunlap@mtstandard.com>]

Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2017 9:32 AM

To: Moler, Robert <Moler.Robert@epa.gov>

Cc: Coleman, Charles <COleman.Charles@epa.gov>; Vranka, Joe <vranka.joe@epa.gov>;

Mutter, Andrew <mutter.andrew@epa.gov>; Mylott, Richard <Mylott.Richard@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: media request

Thanks Robert.

I'm out sick today. Let's talk tomorrow.

Susan

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 12, 2017, at 9:30 AM, Moler, Robert
<Moler.Robert@epa.gov<<mailto:Moler.Robert@epa.gov>>> wrote:

Hi Susan,

Sorry I missed your inquiry yesterday, I was out of the office. Charlie is out of the office for this week and is scheduled to be back in the office next Monday 10/16. As the EPA Project Manager for the Anaconda Smelter site, Charlie's input into responding to your questions is essential. Sorry we will not be able to respond to your questions until early next week after Charlie returns.

I wish I could be of more help at this time. I will follow up with you as soon as I can.
Thanks Susan.

Robert Moler

Community Involvement Coordinator

EPA - Montana

406.457.5032

From: Susan Dunlap [<mailto:Susan.Dunlap@mtstandard.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 1:40 PM

To: Mylott, Richard <Mylott.Richard@epa.gov<<mailto:Mylott.Richard@epa.gov>>>;
Moler, Robert <Moler.Robert@epa.gov<<mailto:Moler.Robert@epa.gov>>>

Cc: Coleman, Charles <COleman.Charles@epa.gov<<mailto:COleman.Charles@epa.gov>>>;
Vranka, Joe <vranka.joe@epa.gov<<mailto:vranka.joe@epa.gov>>>; Mutter, Andrew
<mutter.andrew@epa.gov<<mailto:mutter.andrew@epa.gov>>>

Subject: RE: media request

Ok, we'll hold the story a day. If you can get answers to me by tomorrow, I'd appreciate it.

Best,

Susan

Susan Dunlap

Natural Resources Reporter

Montana Standard | Box 627 | 25 W. Granite St. | Butte MT 59703

406-496-5572

406-565-3051 (cell)

susan.dunlap@mtstandard.com<<mailto:email@mtstandard.com>>

<image001.jpg><<http://mtstandard.com/heart/>>

From: Mylott, Richard [<mailto:Mylott.Richard@epa.gov>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 1:31 PM

To: Susan Dunlap

<Susan.Dunlap@mtstandard.com<<mailto:Susan.Dunlap@mtstandard.com>>>; Moler,

Robert <Moler.Robert@epa.gov<<mailto:Moler.Robert@epa.gov>>>

Cc: Coleman, Charles <COleman.Charles@epa.gov<<mailto:COleman.Charles@epa.gov>>>;
Vranka, Joe <vranka.joe@epa.gov<<mailto:vranka.joe@epa.gov>>>; Mutter, Andrew
<mutter.andrew@epa.gov<<mailto:mutter.andrew@epa.gov>>>

Subject: RE: media request

Hi Susan, thanks for this. Robert and Charlie are both out today. I'll do some checking but we likely won't be able to get a start on this til tomorrow.

From: Susan Dunlap [<mailto:Susan.Dunlap@mtstandard.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 11:28 AM

To: Moler, Robert <Moler.Robert@epa.gov<<mailto:Moler.Robert@epa.gov>>>; Mylott,
Richard <Mylott.Richard@epa.gov<<mailto:Mylott.Richard@epa.gov>>>

Cc: Coleman, Charles <COleman.Charles@epa.gov<<mailto:COleman.Charles@epa.gov>>>;
Vranka, Joe <vranka.joe@epa.gov<<mailto:vranka.joe@epa.gov>>>

Subject: media request

Hi Robert and Rich,

I'm doing a story for tomorrow's paper on Anaconda getting ready to test for arsenic and lead in the 3 schools there and I'm doing a small update on Benny Goodman Park.

I understand EPA never ordered ARCO to test for arsenic inside the schools, is that correct?

And the soil testing at the school grounds was 2 inches for arsenic done in the early 2000's, correct?

The soils on school grounds have never been tested for lead, correct?

Any additional comment EPA wants to make on the school testing?

For Benny Goodman, I understand the park will be closed for 8 weeks starting in the spring and will undergo a complete soil remediation of "mostly" 12 inches, with some spots only 6 inches. Is EPA in charge of this?

Any comment on the remediation project?

Deadline end of day.

Thanks so much,

Susan

Susan Dunlap

Natural Resources Reporter

Montana Standard | Box 627 | 25 W. Granite St. | Butte MT 59703

406-496-5572

406-565-3051 (cell)

susan.dunlap@mtstandard.com<mailto:email@mtstandard.com>

<image002.jpg><<http://mtstandard.com/heart/>>

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